

# HOKKU

ISSUE 4







HELLO AND THANKS TO:  
'BEGINNING OF THE END',  
KICHI & 'DEFUSE', CHRIS &

- (T)ristan



HAIDZA

NO SOUND BUT PATTERN/ FEET IN WET GRASS AND THICK MUD/  
DIGGING FOR EARTHWORMS/

CHILDREN OF MY OWN/ CHILDREN OF OTHERS; PAVE WAYS/  
FOR THE LIGHT TO STAY/

A FLOWER FOR EACH/ MY HEART GOES OUT TO THEM ALL/  
MAY LOVE BE WITH THEM/

TO TEAR THE HEARTS OFF/ AND MAY THAT LOVE BE THEIR SWORD/  
TO THEIR CRUEL ADULTS/

A FLOWER TO STAY/ COSTS NOTHING, BUT THERE IS MORE/  
YET SOME TEAR THEM UP/

THROW THEM ON PAVEMENT/ AND ANOTHER CHILD HAD DIED/  
DECADENCY, WASTE/

BE GONE WITH THEM ALL/ I LIKEN THEM TO DAISIES/  
THEY PUSH THEMSELVES UP/ (Adults)



one at a time wearing their instruments front of #



# BEGINNING OF THE END

Aga's answers:

## 1 HOW WAS BOTE FORMED?

When I found out that Chris and Robert, and later also Gianluca (GUAH) for a while, started working on a new project and did not have a singer I decided to give it a go. It was my best friend - Bongo who helped me make up my mind. I had not sung in a band for 5 years, so I wasn't sure what to expect of myself. I didn't say anything about my vocal to the guys so they were quite curious until the first rehearsal when I came with long lyrics and started yelling. Chris asked as a joke if it was lyrics for the whole record. Actually it was just for one track, and to make things more interesting - in Polish. By the end of the session a new song was nearly ready and the guys seemed to like my vocal. They wouldn't have expected it from a skinny quiet girl, hehe. When Mark joined the band we felt that was the right group of people to form the band, to shape the music. We hardly knew each other then but every rehearsal, every gig were bringing us closer. And, most importantly, the music we created together was better and better. Actually, BOTE formed as a band after a few rehearsals and it was Robert, Chris, Mark and Aga. It was around the end of 2006.

## 2 WHAT ARE BOTE ALL ABOUT?

What got us together as a band was a coincidence and also immense will and joy of creating music. It's like 4 people, very different from each other, met in the right place at the right time. Chris has been





around for years, playing in bands such as (...)... He was already touring with Robert with GUAH. Robert used to play drums in White Rabbit (PL) before. I used to sing in Muerte al Estado (PL) and did a few other projects years back, when I was studying in Poland. We first saw Mark at Hole In The Head gig in Grosvenor. He agreed to come to the rehearsal and stayed with us ever since. We are even living in the same place now. BOTE is nothing but a mixture of people from different backgrounds, with different experience joined by crustpunk scene and love for music. Each of us has their own ways and the compliment each other so to say. We're trying to be politically engaged: we are vegetarian, we are squatters, we organise/co-organise many gigs and benefits. BOTE plays an important part in our lives. It lets us contribute to the scene and continue our previous experiences in the music. It gives us the chance to express all the emotions within us through music. To speak out loud once again, because we know its worth it. It does make sense to wind the DIY punk up, to get involved and sacrifice for the world that we all create grow in



strength and remain ours. The real strength is in our hands and minds.

BOTE is all about:

No one has the right

To force me

To control my life

No one

A right in one country

A crime in another

I've got the right

The right to choose

(our Intro)

3. WHO WRITES LYRICS? WHAT ISSUES/ FEELINGS DO THEY WRITE ABOUT?

I am writing the lyrics in the band.

I write a lot and enjoy doing

it. Part of the lyrics used in BOTE was written a few years ago but the topics mentioned still

matter. This is the case with Naukratis,

Klamstwa (Lies) and Flashbacks.

Naukratis deals with a disease from which many

people living in the so called western civilisation,

often unknowingly, suffer. Living fast,

running after money. Being 'busy' is an approved,

often admired state of living. Blind ignorance and

greed of an enslaved, lost in the money-chase man.

rock'n' roll jihad présente :

film. 12 avril 2009

sions of war

ove drink and roll (B/E)

RENNING  
OF THE END

modern crust metal (UK)

HISTO

in grind we crust (B)

ntes sur rocknrolljihad@hotmail.fr

PRESENTS

SQRR BEGINNING  
OF THE END

MEIN OF

Wargox retcher

£6

+vegan

Friday 6th of

All proceeds

rebuilding

THE

17/14/09

SCOTIO





Klamstwa (Lies) is my fury at the bunch of lies we are being fed with every day from politicians, as the justification of invasions on other countries to begin with. Contempt for duplicity. The strive to separate myself from manipulation and from people trying to reach their targets through understatements and avoiding revealing the inconvenient facts. You can also look at those lyrics strictly from a personal point of view, some of them have more than one meaning. I leave it up to the one who listens to make a judgement, give them their own sense. I find it very interesting to hear how people understand my lyrics, I enjoy those conversations. Other peoples' views are very refreshing and inspiring. What happens around me, events, peoples' actions all get written down at some point. Pro-choice is something I always wanted to shout out loud. It is my right to decide about my life and my anger at restrictive anti-abortion law in Poland, patriarchal way of thinking and catholic church repressing women that way. Flashbacks is nothing but looking back at events from our past that influenced ours life and yet another attempt to sort them out, understand things that are still influencing ours behaviour/actions. Traumas and euphory, times we fell down and moments of pure happiness - all the emotional substance that is making us as people. In the cage is dealing with reaction of the most dangerous of animals - homo sapiens at being closed in a cage. It is about the hell one can turn another's life into. It has many layers and can be read differently by people, can have various meanings. Uganda - about civil war in Uganda; a war where children are becoming soldiers. And yet another leader who, thinking he was a god, took the liberty of taking peoples' lives and the unspeakable harm he has done to his nation and especially the most innocent part of it - children. Death - is my personal chat with mother of all living - death. Obstacles - looking for fulfilment, we experiment, pushing the boundaries within us, our minds. Let's explore with our sexuality regardless of age, gender or colour. As long as we do not hurt the other person.

#### 4 INFLUENCES?

Catholic fundamentalist groups and oppressive world. As far as the music is concerned I keep my ears wide open. Through metal, crust punk, to classical music. Really love bands with good lyrics. I will not listen to a band with great music if the lyric do not convince me, its got to be something more than just the music. I watch the world around me, other people an their behaviours, they are my biggest inspiration. Masks they wear and change depending on circumstances. Duplicity. Words filled with lies and venom. Jealousy in peoples' eyes. What is a priority for me is saying loud what you really think - even if you are bound to lose as a consequence of that. In fact what you lose is life of delusion, what you win is your real self. That's the only way to win your life.



### Mark's answers:

1. I had been living in London a year or so when at a gig at the Grosvenor Rob and Chris asked if I would play drums for their new band. I went a long to a couple of practises and it just seemed to work. I really loved the music Chris and Rob were making and when I first heard Aga's vocals I was blown away!

2. For me its all about making music we love, travelling to new places and meeting great new people. 4. I grew up in Southampton which had a really good punk scene (and still does). I got to see a lot of different bands play, but it was always the heavier side of punk which I loved!

### Chris's answers:

1. Sometime in 2006 Robert Marzia and me started to have a few practises as Rob had some songs. Then Aga began singing for us after a few months (I think).

Unfortunately D-beat machine

Marzia decided to move back to Italy, she now plays in Campus stermini and Kontatto. Gianluca drummed for a little while until we asked Mark if he would like to drum. 2. We have good lyrics that will hopefully mean

something to people. While making some nice noise and having a good time while travelling to interesting places. Hopefully making some money

for good causes. Meeting good like-minded people and sampling their alcohol and drugs.

4. (Think Aga answered this perfectly)

5. Lp and cd coming soon on Scream and Active rebellion.

## MEANS TO AN END...

HARDCORE PUNK FESTIVAL 2008

FRIDAY 31<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER - SUNDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> NOVEMBER

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www.meantoeanend.co.uk

FRIDAY 31<sup>ST</sup> OCT

PROJECT HOPELESS

DIVISIONS RUIN

BEGINNING OF THE END

WARPRAYER

SATURDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> NOV

CRESS

SHITTY LIMITS

LIBERTY

ARADA

WARBOYS

FACEL VERA





# The Way of Nature

## A primer on Daoism for Punks and Anarchists

You don't have to be Taoist to have a Taoist spirit. Neither do you have to wear punk fashions to have a punk spirit, in fact the further you stay from what's fashionable and stereotyped, the closer you are to punk. Daoism is exactly the same. Daoism and punk have many parallels which are why I feel inspired to write this primer. Daoism is one of the first Anarchistic philosophies, with the famous philosopher ZhuangZi generally being regarded as the first Anarchistic intellectual recorded in the world. I hope this primer helps to answer any questions you might have on Daoism. I am not trying to enlighten anyone. If you don't like Daoism, that's fine. You don't have to have anything to do with Daoism to perfectly exemplify its philosophy because the Tao is in everything and you don't have to understand the molecules in water to drink.

Sincerely,

-Anonymous 

### What is the Tao?

Daoism is a nature based philosophy that arose out of China in indigenous times. Tao, (spelled interchangeably as Dao), is pronounced 'dow'. Tao originally meant 'a path' or 'the way' it became a philosophy in awe of nature and the universe with the writing of the Tao Te Ching (pronounced 'dow' 'da' 'jing'), thought to have been written as early as 600 B.C. It's easier to understand the origins of Daoism with an understanding of early shamanic culture as its origins may have been similar to the Native American Indian belief in 'the path of nature' and 'the spirit of the Earth'. Daoism had several stages or waves just as punk did. The latest stage was alchemical or religious Daoism, a time when Daoism had priests and "Taoists" who worshiped "Gods" and experimented with alchemy to try to become immortal. A stage of Daoism very far removed from the original principles of simplicity and a trust in the stages of nature, life, and death. Daoism in its various forms eventually spread to Korea, Japan and many parts of Asia.

### What are its principles?

In the Tao Te Ching, Lao Tzu speaks in praise of 'emptiness', 'simplicity', 'staying close to nature', the virtue of 'pacifism' and 'going with the flow' exemplified by water, among others. To be very succinct, Daoism has four very core-concepts:

The first is Wu Wei, or 'unattached action'. The original phrase of Lao Tzu is 'wei wu wei', which means 'action without action', or 'going with the flow of nature'. You should decide what that means to you and not what others say it is. To me it means the philosophy of 'nothing-doing', not 'doing nothing'. Lao Tzu said the Tao does nothing yet leaves nothing undone. I think this means that nature nourishes everything and yet doesn't try to nourish anything, and that's something Lao Tzu wanted to emulate in his own character.

The second is the Un-carved Block. The un-carved block represents simplicity. It's a metaphor referred to many times by Lao Tzu. It means the perfection of things left to be themselves. Things that are not forcibly changed or altered, the whole tree being better than a beautifully



ornate chair, it means the perfection of a baby not yet pressured by dogma, the beauty of a man or a woman who lets themselves be happy and free.

The third is Emptiness. Lao Tzu said 'the Tao may be likened to an empty bowl. It is never filled and use never exhausts it.' The concept of emptiness is more complex and it may mean that emptiness is filled with vast potential. It is up to you to decide what emptiness means to you, all these principles are traits highly valued in nature and emulated by Lao Tzu. A very Taoistic quote from the Japanese book Hagakure, says 'form is emptiness, emptiness is form. One should not think these are two separate things.' Lao Tzu warned against fullness, meaning to be too many things, or to have too much is dangerous. Moderation is important in all things.

The fourth is Water. Lao Tzu had the highest respect for water, and said the highest goodness is water. Water symbolises the principles of Daoism in many ways. Water perfectly exemplifies Wu Wei, in that what could 'go with the flow' better than water? But water means much more than Wu Wei. Water is everything to all life on our Earth. Water benefits all things without striving.

There are many more concepts in philosophical Daoism, especially when you take into account two later books written, but these concepts are more than enough for you to enjoy Daoism on your own.

How is it like punk?

The original spirit of punk was about 'first impulse', which may be regarded as a very Taoist concept by some Japanese philosophers. Punk was an explosion of the creative potential that lay dormant in individuals and was brought to the surface once they 'shrugged off' the 'shackles of convention'. Early Taoist philosophers wanted to trust in the 'chaos' of Nature, and 'shrug off' the 'shackles of convention' imposed by Confucianism. Confucian conventionalism and custom was one hundred times stricter than the conventionalism of 1970's Great Britain!

Punk in the 80's underwent a Renaissance in its own right with the 'peace-punk' of the Crass era. Bands like Crass believed very firmly in Mother Earth as the highest goodness and spoke out about the wrongs of Governments who had their hands in everything, simultaneously trying to diffuse conflict and engaging in war, 'short-changing' the civil liberties of ordinary citizens and tightening their control. Lao Tzu said the greatest carpenter does the 'least cutting'. This is a nod at governments; it says that the less a government does, the less it destroys the perfection of

Nature and Human beings. Lao Tzu also advocated pacifism, saying 'it is better to retreat a foot, than advance an inch'. This was valuable advice considering that China had the longest and bloodiest history of warfare in the world.

Zhuangzi is the philosopher most referred to as "Anarchistic". He felt very strongly that humans should be left to their own natures and that there should be "no governing" at all. Zhuangzi expanded on Lao Tzu's concept of the Universal Tao and made Daoism a philosophy even more compatible with 'peace-punk' concepts. The most famous part of his book is a story in which he dreamed that he was a butterfly, care-free and effortless, once he awoke he didn't see any distinction between himself as a man and the butterfly 'self' he possessed in the dream. He said he did not know if he was a man who formerly dreamed of being a butterfly or if he was now a butterfly and his life as a man, just a butterfly's dream. Another story about being happy and free in nature tells of Zhuangzi sitting happily on the banks of a river when two officials came to ask him to be an adviser to their prince. Zhuangzi tells them 'I have heard that your prince keeps an ancient tortoise shell which he venerates with the utmost respect. Do you think the tortoise would rather be venerated, dead in a temple, or alive and happily dragging its tail through the mud?' The officials looked confused, 'Go away! I am dragging my tail through the mud.' He turned down fame and fortune as if it were disgrace and utter poverty and easily made the choice of nature over the 'trappings of man'.



DAFODILS

I PICKED A SINGLE DAFFODIL  
AND THREW IT TO THE EARTH.  
THE FLOWERS GREW IN A CIRCLE OF STONE

IF I COULD DIE TO FIND YOU  
I'VE FOUND YOU.

PEOPLE HAVE STRANGE IDEAS ABOUT DEATH<sup>H</sup>  
DEATH TO KNOW YOU  
IT'S LOVELY TO KNOW YOU  
YOU ARE LOVELY AND GOD TO ME.

A SINGLE THOUGHT CAN PENETRATE  
A BLANKET OF LIES  
AND STAB THE CENTRE OF A FARCE  
HALF THOUGHT AND STILL-BORN.

I'M STILL WORN  
YET NEW FOR YOU.

I'VE ALWAYS KNOWN YOU  
AND I ALWAYS MISS YOU.

I WOULD KISS THE TREES  
JUST TO FEEL YOU.  
IT'S APAULING-  
MY LUST FOR A SINGLE FLOWER.

THERE IS NO GARDEN  
IN YOUR HAIR.  
I WILL KEEP MY EARS OPEN  
JUST TO HEAR YOUR VOICE.

IF YOU LENT ME YOUR SIGHT  
JUST SO I CAN CRY.  
I WILL EVERY DAY

BECAUSE I LOVE YOU.





# FREE YOURSELF



PAY NO MORE  
THAN 20p